

REMARKS

Applicant submits this Response in reply to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2006. Claims 1-5, 7-14, 52-56, and 58-64 remain in the application. Claims 6 and 57 have now been canceled. Claims 15-51 are withdrawn from consideration, without prejudice. The limitation of Claim 6 has been incorporated into Claim 1, and the limitation of Claim 57 has been incorporated into Claim 52. No new matter is added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 6, 11-14, 52 and 57-64 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,531,867 (Greene) and Claims 2-5 and 53-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Greene in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,040,431 (Sakino). Claims 1 and 57 are the only independent claims in the application. At the interview of May 25, 2006, it was agreed that inclusion of Claim 6 into Claim 1, and inclusion of Claim 57 into Claim 52, and with the additional feature of “flexure elements” in lieu of “flexures” in such inclusions, would overcome the outstanding rejections based on the Greene reference and further would overcome the Subrahamanyan reference. It was further agreed that upon such amendment, the outstanding §102 rejection of independent Claims 1 and 57 would be withdrawn. Those amendments have now been made. Accordingly, there is now no proper basis for the §102 rejection of Claims 1 and 57. The remaining claims are dependent on Claims 1 and 57, and thus, there is no proper basis for the §102 and §103 rejection of the remaining claims. The §102 and §103 rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Accordingly, Claims 1-5, 7-14, 52-56, and 58-64, all claims in the application, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that Claims 1-5, 7-14, 52-56 and 58-61, all claims remaining in the application, are now in condition for allowance. Passage to issue is requested.

In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecute and/or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 310-6010.

Applicants have attached to this Response a one month extension of time. However, should any other extension or fee be required, Applicant hereby petitions for same and requests that such and any other fee required for timely consideration of this application be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2678.

Respectfully Submitted,
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